

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081346

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PINS, EI, UK, US

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON NORTHERN IRELAND

1. DURING A CALL ON HARTMAN APRIL 3, WHICH WAS LARGELY DEVOTED TO A GENERAL REVIEW OF CSCE, CYPRUS, AND PORTUGAL, AMBASSADOR MOLLOY AND COUNSELOR SMALL MENTIONED A BRIEF STATEMENT IN THE MARCH 26 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD (BEING POUCHED TO POL, ALL THREE POSTS) BY CONGRESSMAN LESTER MOLFF IN FAVOR OF HEARINGS ON NORTHERN IRELAND. WOLFF INSERTED THREE LETTERS ON THE SUBJECT, INCLUDING ONE DATED FEBRUARY 21 FROM FELLOW CONGRESSMAN, RICHARD L. OTTINGER, WHICH NOTED OTTINGER'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE WOULD BE HEARINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.

2. WE SUBSEQUENTLY RECONFIRMED WITH HFAC STAFFER THAT, AS DUBLIN AWARE, THERE ARE NO REPEAT NO PRESENT PLANS FOR SUCH A HEARING. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT WOLFF, AS CHAIRMAN NOW OF HIS OWN SUBCOMMITTEE ON FUTURE FOREIGN
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POLICY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, CAN HOLD HEARINGS ON

SUBJECTS OF HIS OWN CHOOSING WHENEVER HE WISHES. WE WILL, CONSEQUENTLY BE ALERT TO FURTHER INDICATIONS THAT NORTHERN IRELAND WILL BE AIRED.

3. SMALL SAID THE IRISH EMBASSY HAD TOLD WOLFF RECENTLY (WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD STATEMENT) THAT, IN THEIR VIEW, NOTHING WOULD BE GAINED BY HEARINGS AT THIS TIME, BUT THAT IF THERE WERE HEARINGS, THOSE WHO WERE CALLED FROM ULSTER SHOULD BE ELECTED REPEAT ELECTED POLITICIANS. (FYI - DURING WASHINGTON VISIT, FITZGERALD HAD EMPHASIZED TO LEGISLATORS THAT WITNESSES NOT REPEAT NOT BE MEMBERS OF OUTLAWED TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.) KISSINGER

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